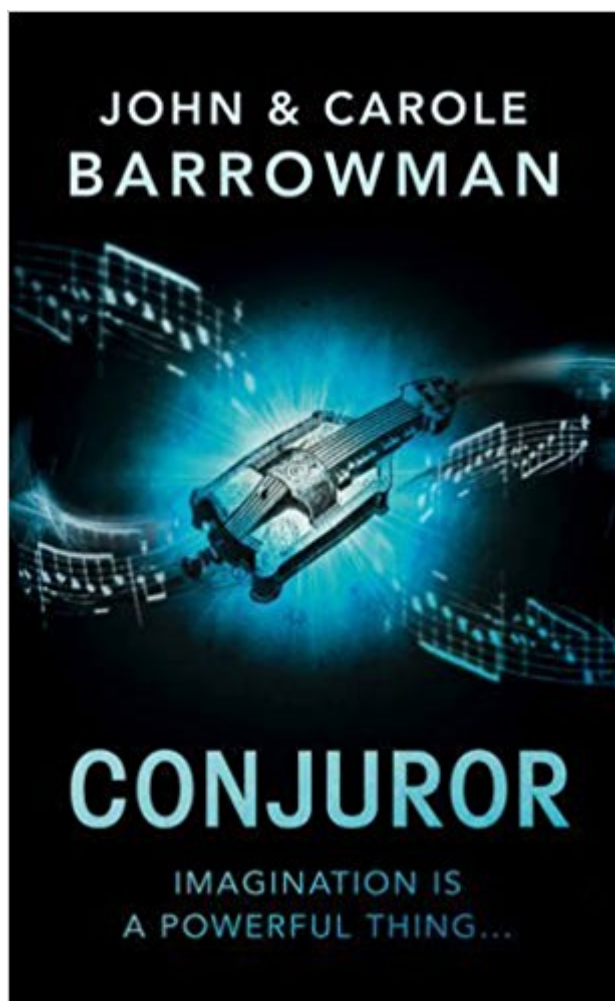


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Conjurer: Orion Chronicles



Synopsis

There are three things in this world that 17-year-old Romy would guard with his life: his gold pendant, his blues harmonica, and his mother's journal. This is all he has left of his murdered family. And he believes these objects will lead him to their killers. Romy can't hunt them down alone. He needs Matt and Em Calder, twins who can bring art to life and travel through paintings. For, like them, Romy has supernatural powers. He is a Conjuror, descendant of an ancient bloodline that can change reality with music.

Book Information

Series: Orion Chronicles (Book 1)

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 27 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

Gr 9 Up "Torchwood and Doctor Who actor Barrowman collaborates with his sister on a new YA series. The first installment teams up twins Matt and Emily Calder, the heroes from the Barrowmans' "Hollow Earth" trilogy, with a powerful teen, Romy Dupree Rush, the last Conjuror capable of stopping two evil entities from bringing to fruition the Second Kingdom and the coming of the dead. This work skips around in the first half, making it difficult to get into, and there is a good deal of exposition, but once the narrative gets going, the novel hits some good notes. It is fast-paced and intelligently written, but the real strength is in the characterization, with even minor and one-off characters being fully fleshed out. As with their previous titles, there is a heavy influence of the arts throughout. Music and works of art are referenced, and the people responsible for those works also play a part in the narrative. These references will hopefully stimulate interest in great paintings and music and send teens off to the stacks looking for more information. While the siblings' previous

books were written for middle grade, this series is firmly YA. The Calder twins are now in their mid-teens, there is some strong language, and mature situations are implied. VERDICT A slow start gives way to a very strong first installment in this promising new series; purchase where fantasy is popular.â "Erik Knapp, Davis Library, Plano, TX

"Captivating fantasy adventure." â "Sunday Express"Fast-paced adventure and characters so realistic they could jump out of the pages." â "The Bookbag" "An exciting page-turner awash with devils and demons." â "Scottish Sunday Post

I somehow managed to find this book on from a third party seller. This is the 4th Em & Matt Calder book - and it's not. Em and Matt are now 16 and their powers have developed beyond anyone's expectations. But rather than be bonded to a guardian, they choose to remain together. They are sent to Vaughn to become members of Orion. WARNING: This is not a children's book. It contains some adult themes and language. But this is more than just the next book in the series. Now we meet Remy Dupree, an African American teenager whose magical abilities are woven in music. He is 17 and he can play many different instruments. He also has the voice of an angel. His gift was passed down to him through the generations. But evil stalks him. A menace that killed his mother and aunt before his eyes. A menace that lives in a painting that must be found.

This is a fitting continuation of the Calder twins story. I enjoyed the Hollow Earth trilogy and am excited to be back in Matt and Em's lives following their further adventures. There was foreshadowing in the Hollow Earth series about Orion so I wasn't really surprised that the twins end up as part of that organization. They were never going to be typical animare or guardians. I was extremely sad about how their decisions affected Zach. Remy is an interesting character and the story that follows him is dark and intense. It was a bit scary so definitely more teen than middle grade reader level book.

When I started Conjuror, I thought perhaps it was better suited for middle grade readers. As I moved through the story, I realized it's more of a crossover book for MG/YA so readers who enjoy MG/YA urban fantasy, this is totally a book for you! Conjuror has a bit of everything: powers (genetic but magical in nature), history, complex characters and relationships, and a story that moves you through with good pacing. There are three main protagonists and one antagonist, who are unraveling a more complex world throughout the story. The book ends at a place that is satisfying

but also leaves it open for future stories. Knowing there are more books coming us exciting as I can't wait to see what comes next in the world.

Another great book by John and Carole Barrowman. Great new characters and plot twist. Waiting not so patiently for the next installment.

Liked the idea. Different from others, combining some travel through time and locations. Looking forward to the next book.

I thoroughly enjoyed this book. Even though it is considered a YA book there was enough excitement to keep this definitely not YA reader entertained through the end.

The writing did a decent job of describing the events but the characters themselves were largely unbelievable. Not in the, "this is fantastical" way but in a "there's no reason for the character to have taken that action." The book also seems to rush through things and at times it loses its sense of time because of it. The characters introductions were handled excellently but the development was missing or, like mentioned earlier, forced. They also had a few scenes where I had to re-read it and ask myself, "did they just talk about sex?" They a decent job of having them in there while not explicitly talking about them, though it still felt out of place. Overall, not that great of a book. I won't be finishing the series, but for a younger audience it would be alright.

Had to stay on my toes to keep up, at least until all the characters were introduced. Then it was a couldn't-put-it-down read. Looking forward to more!

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